

North-South LRT

Salt Lake City, Utah

(November 2002)

Description

The Utah Transit Authority (UTA) has built a 15-mile Light Rail Transit (LRT) line with 16 stations from downtown Salt Lake City along State Street and I-15 to the southern suburban areas. The project includes 28 light rail vehicles, 11 park-and-ride lots, and double tracking of the I-215 bridge. Currently, the North-South LRT line operates at-grade on city streets in downtown Salt Lake City (two miles) and on a railroad right-of-way (13 miles) owned by UTA to the suburban community of Sandy. Although the North-South LRT was estimated to carry 14,000 passengers per day in 2000 (opening year) and 23,000 passengers per day in 2010, current ridership averages 22,000 weekday riders. The line was opened for service on December 6, 1999.

The total cost of this project under the Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) is \$312.49 million. The Section 5309 New Starts funding share for this project is \$237.40 million.

Status

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approved the project into Preliminary Engineering in February 1991. FTA issued the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the project in September 1994 and signed the Record of Decision in November 1994. In February 1995, FTA approved the project into Final Design. In August 1995, FTA and UTA entered into an FFGA with a revenue operations date scheduled for December 31, 2000. LRT construction is 99 percent complete. An invitation for bids for the I-215 bridge was issued in September 2002. Construction is scheduled for completion in July 2003.

TEA-21 Section 3030(a)(74) authorized the South LRT for Final Design and construction. Through FY 2002, Congress has appropriated \$243.28 million in Section 5309 New Starts funds to the project. This total includes \$6.60 million in prior years' funds that are not included in the FFGA commitment.

| Reported in Year of Expenditure Dollars | | |
|--|---|--|
| <u>Source of Funds</u> | <u>Total Funding (million)</u> | <u>Appropriations to Date</u> |
| Federal: | | |
| Section 5309 New Starts FFGA Commitment | \$237.39 | \$243.28 million appropriated through FY 2002 * |
| Section 5309 Bus | \$ 4.00 | |
| Local: | \$ 71.10 | |
| TOTAL | \$312.49 | |

NOTE: Total may not add due to rounding.

* The appropriations to date reported above include \$6.60 million in prior year Section 5309 New Starts funds that are not included in the FFGA commitment.

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